

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Original) An assembly for protection against an explosion, said assembly including a substantially plate-shaped multi-ply element formed by two outer walls (1, 2) and at least one intermediate layer (3) of a particle-shaped material, **characterised in** that at least one layer of a particle-shaped material is a ceramic material presenting a density in the range of approximately 0.3 to 1.5 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, each of the particles having a pore diameter in the range of approximately 20 to 120  $\mu$  and a physical size in the range of approximately 0.5 to 10 mm.
2. (Original) An assembly according to claim 1, **characterised in** that the ceramic material presents a crystal size in the range of approximately 1 to 20  $\mu$ .
3. (Currently Amended) An assembly according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, **characterised in** that the ceramic material presents a density in the range of approximately 0.5 to 0.95 g/cm<sup>3</sup> and preferably in the range of approximately 0.6 to 0.8 g/cm<sup>3</sup>.
4. (Currently Amended) An assembly according to claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~, **characterised in** that the particles of the ceramic material present a pore diameter in the range of approximately 30 to 80  $\mu$  and preferably in the range of approximately 45 to 65  $\mu$ .
5. (Currently Amended) An assembly according to claim 1, ~~2, 3 or 4~~, **characterised in** that the particles of the ceramic material presents a physical size in the range of approximately 1 to 7 mm and preferably in the range of approximately 2 to 5 mm.

6. (Currently Amended) An assembly according to ~~one or more of the preceding claims 1 to 5~~  
claim 1, **characterised in** that the outer walls (1, 2) are made of a metal material.

7. (Currently Amended) An assembly according to ~~one or more of the preceding claims 1 to 6~~  
claim 1, **characterised in** that the outer walls (1, 2) are made of a fibre-reinforced rubber  
material.